

8-29-00

Commissioner Jane Henney
Food & Drug Administration
Docket No. OOP-1211/CP1
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061 (HFA-305)
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Dr Henney,

I am one American citizen who has become conscious of the reality of the large number of genetically engineered foods now available to consumers everyday. The recent influx of genetically modified foods has obviously come to take place without the full knowledge of the long term consequences to human health from eating these new, synthesized foods.

Personally, I am choosing to buy organic foods and foods not containing other hormones. I am concerned about the long term health effects from the foods I eat. The rest of the American public needs to be notified on the individual food packagings whether or not the foods they are buying were genetically altered. Produce must also be labeled as well.

Clearly more testing must be done on these foods before their long term safety is determined and they are heaped on the unknowing consumer. The most glaring example of this is in baby foods, which are becoming increasingly genetically modified. One could only speculate the total effects this will have on future generations.

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OOP-1211 The startling rapidness with which our overall food products are switching from natural to genetically modified is shown in two of the main staple crops of the U.S. In 1996, only about one percent of all corn and soybeans produced in the country were genetically engineered; now more than

one-third of the corn crop and more than one-half of the soybeans have been genetically modified. Citizens must be made aware of the foods they are eating by proper labeling and more of a conscious effort by each citizen can be made to eat more organic foods and support the small farmers of America.

Sincerely,



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